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#### RUMOR SPLIT AMONG LEADERS IN HUNGARY

There may well be some truth in the rumors now circulating about two leaders of Hungary's planned economy, Erno Gero and Zoltan Vas.

Gero is the originator of the unsuccessful Five-Year Plan which was seriously criticized by Vas in a session of the Supreme Party Committee. The Plan was officially replaced by the Austerity Program which, in turn, is the work of Istvan Friss, who has the support of Gero's numerous opponents. This faction holds Gero responsible, above all, for the disastrous coal shortage which necessitated the employment of unskilled labor in the coal mines, without proper safety measures. This led to a horrible catastrophe in which 113 miners lost their lives.

This catastrophe might well prove disastrous to Gero's political career. In view of the existing tension between him and his opponents in the government, it is quite plausible that the change-over from the Five-Year Plan to the Austerity Program may bring about a change in the country's economic leadership.

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